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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SR 31 "All Weather" project details to be presented at Open House

The Washington State Department of Transportation will hold an Open House to present details on the upcoming SR 31/Metaline Falls to the International Border, all weather roadway improvement project.

The Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2003 at the Selkirk High School Multi Purpose room, located about 6 miles north of Ione on SR 31. The meeting hours are from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Interested citizens are invited to drop by at any time during the Open House to review maps and displays of the project. The project engineering staff will be on hand to discuss aspects of the project, answer your questions, and get your input.

The Department is in the final design process this project. The purpose of this work is to rebuild State Route 31 to specifications that will enable the year around movement of legally loaded trucks without concerns for weather related weight restrictions.

Construction of this project is slated to get underway with roadside items in late 2004 then roadway work starting in 2005. Completion is scheduled for late 2006.

The \$15.9 million construction project is being funded through the "Nickel Package" passed by the Legislature in 2003.

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